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UNCLAS BRATISLAVA 000034

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [EAID](#) [SENV](#) [TBIO](#)

SUBJECT: ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES DEMARCHE

REF: STATE 269625

1. Econoff delivered questions, per reftel, to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) point of contact in Slovakia, Dr. Igor Ferencik of the Ministry of Environment (MOE). Ferencik shared the questions with officials from the MOE and the Ministry Agriculture (MOA), and they returned the following responses.

2. According to Slovak Act Number 543/2002, regional authorities must give permission to collect biological resources in protected areas or for non-CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) protected species. In all other cases, collection is controlled by the MOA under the auspices of Slovak Act Number 215/2001.

3. The Central Control and Testing Institute under the control of the MOA has the responsibility to issue permits for movement or export of biological specimens.

4. The MOE is responsible for mutually agreed terms (MAT) and prior informed consent (PIC) procedures but has not currently assigned any individual, department, or sub-department the responsibility of employing MAT or PIC and does not consider this topic a priority.

5. Ferencik expressed a personal interest in these topics and stated that he has unsuccessfully called attention to them at senior levels in the MOE. Nevertheless, he and his colleagues still could not readily find answers to the majority of the questions in the reftel.

THAYER

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